

Southbridge Mass.
Nov. 29, 1876.

Miss Emma Stebbins,

Dear Madam,

Your letter of 19th inst. was duly rec^d and I have since been trying to fulfill my promise. I am sorry to learn that your health has been, and still is, so poor. I hope the improvement will be followed by such restoration as will enable you to complete, before very long, your plan in regard to the memory of your dear friend. I know from many years experience, what it is to be an invalid!

I have tried in the accompanying sheet to get in train some links that might be helpful to you to trace antecedents, progenitors and incidents, that have had to do, in forming the wonderful life and character of Charlotte Saunders Bushman.

From what you have written and said to me, I presume you have her papers, mem^o-s, that will fill many gaps.

The friends and acquaintance, here,
of the Babbit family, always stat-
ted that the husband of Mary Eliza
was a foreigner, an Englishman,
and I was surprised when the
newspapers stated that he was
connected directly with the Plym-
outh families, but the work of Hon.
J. W. Bushman explains it. The link
however looks feeble. Perhaps you may
know more of it than the book gives.
It does not give the date of Elkanah's
276, marriage with Mary Lathrop or
even state that they were married, or
what became of them. The son must
have known. When I first heard
of the article of Mary Howitt's and
what it was, I thought it mostly ro-
mance, but later knowledge has
led me to think differently of it.
The wife of Dr. Tho. Babbit - Mary Jackson
Babson of Gloucester - was daughter of
Rebecca Sanders (born Mar. 16, 1747) sister
of Hon. Tho. Sanders; so his 12 chil-
dren including Charlotte S. and
Mary (S.) Babbit were her cousins.
I think probable that you have the
article - knew Mary Howitt and
how it came to be written &c. -
The marriage of Erasmus Babbit Jr.
and Mary S. is not recorded either
in Sturbridge or Gloucester nor

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was "Intention" filed, as was required
then, so it is probable they went over the
line into Conn. as was common, to
avoid the publicity of "publishment",
in Mass. I have neither this date
nor the births of their children,
nor the deaths of Winthrop or
Augustus or of the Mother. The
Harvard College records state that
she was born about 1770, and died
in Sturbridge in 1816 aged 46, which
must be incorrect. I presume you
may have all of these authentic dates
also know more of Charlotte Saunders
than I have written. I do not know when
or where she died. I have known many
persons; many dead, but some still
living, that were acquainted with
the Babbit families - quite a number
school-mates of Mary Eliza, and
I might write pages of their re-
ollections repeated to me at dif-
ferent times, but I weary you
by their recital, and will say
that if you think of anything that
would aid you in your work at
any time, that I can do, please
call me. It seems to me that
from all I have ever learned
that the personal appearance,
and all prominent Char-
acteristics of Charlotte Saunders

Cashman were transmitted through
her Maternal ancestry. As you
propose to mature your work slowly,
you will have time to think
over all the evidences, and as your
facilities are so ample, when it is
done, it will be correctly and well
done.

Very truly and sincerely

Yours,

Wm. Leonard